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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
Patent Application  
Examining Group 1652  
Docket No. MA-702D2  
Serial No. 09/977,653  
Confirmation No. 4237

  
Jay M. Sanders, Patent Attorney

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

Art Unit : 1652  
Applicants : Mark Thompson, Mark E. Knuth, Guy A. Cardineau  
Serial No. : 09/977,653  
Filed : October 15, 2001  
For : *Bacillus thuringiensis* Toxins with Improved Activity

MAR 14 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 4, 6, 13, and 15.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 14, and 17 to read as follows:

Claim 1 (amended):

AI  
An isolated, pesticidal protein wherein said protein consists of a pesticidal fragment of the full-length Cry6A toxin of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said protein is truncated at the amino terminus as compared to the full-length 475-amino-acid toxin and is truncated by at least 32 amino acids at the carboxyl terminus as compared to the full-length toxin.